

# AACC

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
78th Annual Convention — April 25-28, 1998 — Miami Beach, Florida

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

August 21, 1997

William F. Caton  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Room 222  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket 96-45

Dear Mr. Caton:

I write as president of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) to strongly endorse the nomination of Dr. John Swalec, president of Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, Illinois, to serve on the Universal Service Administrative Advisory Committee.

As his attached nomination indicates, Dr. Swalec possesses the strong knowledge and background necessary to assess the impact the universal service law will have on community colleges and other service providers in Illinois. In addition, Dr. Swalec appreciates the national perspective. He serves as a member of the Board of Directors of AACC and is a member of the board's Committee on Public Policy and Government Relations. He is also AACC's representative on the Presidents' Policy Board on Information Technology. This board is composed of college presidents from all sectors of higher education and is dedicated to formulating and monitoring telecommunications policy.

On behalf of AACC and its 1,063 member colleges, I urge you to accept the nomination of Dr. John Swalec to the Universal Service Administrative Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,



David R. Pierce  
President

Dr. John J. Swalec  
President  
Waubonsee Community College  
Route 47 at Harter Road  
Sugar Grove, Illinois 60554-9799

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As a member of the Universal Service Administrative Advisory Committee, Dr. John J. Swalec will represent the interests of more than 1,000 public and private community and technical colleges across the United States. In total, these colleges enroll more than 5.6 million credit students and serve another five million non-credit students across the nation. These colleges currently serve 45 percent of the nation's undergraduates and 49 percent of all first-time college freshmen.

**Background Information:**

Dr. Swalec assumed the leadership of Waubonsee Community College in July 1981. Located in Northern Illinois, Waubonsee currently serves more than 45,000 students in a year at the Sugar Grove, Aurora and Copley campuses, as well as numerous extension locations. Waubonsee is Illinois' tenth largest community college. The college offers pre-baccalaureate programs in 30 majors, associate in applied science degrees in 29 occupations and specialized certificates in 60 areas. Waubonsee also offers English as a second language courses, community education classes, children's programs, seminars and customized business and industry training through the Corporate Development and Training Center, a summer school program for high school students, and honors and international courses.

Dr. Swalec holds a Ph.D. in educational administration, a master's degree in community college administration and a bachelor's degree in education from Illinois State University.

Dr. Swalec came to Waubonsee with extensive administrative experience as the vice president, educational affairs at College of Lake County, Illinois. Prior to that, he served as associate director of the Illinois Community College Board; as a dean at Moraine Valley Community College, Illinois; as a division chair at Triton College, Illinois; and as a department chair at Joliet Junior College, Illinois.

During Dr. Swalec's tenure at Waubonsee, the college has gained national recognition for its use of technology and interactive distance learning. The college has also developed and completed the Aurora campus and Waubonsee Center at Copley facilities with more than \$12 million in non-traditional funding and renovated the Sugar Grove campus with \$17 million in non-traditional funding.

The college has been named by the American Association of Community Colleges as a pacesetter among community colleges across the nation. The college has been recognized by the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) as one of the state's top institutions for teaching and learning. In 1996 the college was the only higher education institution in Illinois to receive the Lincoln Foundation for Business Excellence Award for Continuous Quality Improvement. Waubesa has been designated as one of only three community colleges in Illinois to house a Center for Excellence in Adult Education. In 1994 the institution received the prestigious Teaching and Learning Award from the ICCB.

Dr. Swalec currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges.

Dr. Swalec serves as the American Association of Community College's (AACC) representative to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). He is currently serving his sixth consecutive term as a board member of the NJCAA and is an appointed member of its executive committee. Dr. Swalec was instrumental in gaining AACC's passage of new guidelines for transfer of community college athletes to senior institutions.

Dr. Swalec received the Distinguished Service Award in 1988 and the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1987 from Illinois State University. He was selected the Association of Community College Trustees Central Region CEO in 1990 and received the Corridor Partnership for Excellence in Education Founders' Award in 1993. In 1996 Dr. Swalec was recognized as the Illinois Educational Administrator of the Year by the Illinois Association of Educational Office Personnel.

### **Technology Initiatives:**

As a member of the AACC board of directors, Dr. Swalec serves as the chairperson for the AACC's National Commission on Teaching, Learning and Technology and is AACC's representative on the President's Policy Board on Information Technology.

In Illinois, Dr. Swalec was most recently appointed by Lt. Gov. Bob Kustra to co-chair the Illinois Higher Education Technology Task Force. In this role, Swalec provides leadership for the Illinois Board of Higher Education's statewide initiative for technology development among elementary, secondary, higher education systems, libraries, government entities and research facilities in Illinois. This project, which includes a significant capital investment in technology, will create an information highway backbone across Illinois to aid in education, work force preparation and economic development.

Dr. Swalec also chairs the Illinois Council of Community College Chancellors and Presidents Technology Committee. The committee has been charged with investigating and evaluating the use of technology resources that can enhance student learning -- from Internet to model instructional programs to distance learning inter-connectivity among Illinois Community Colleges.

Dr. Swalec was named by the Illinois Community College Board in 1992 to chair the Telecommunications Ad Hoc Task Force to develop a plan for implementation of a fledgling statewide telecommunications network serving Illinois higher education institutions. As the architect of this first state plan, Dr. Swalec worked with colleges and universities across Illinois to design a system whereby public and private colleges, universities, and high schools organized into 10 regional consortia to provide distance learning opportunities for students. With the adoption of this plan, these consortia gradually developed their distance learning technology and delivery systems and began the process of connecting from one geographic consortium to another to expand educational access to students.

In 1994 Dr. Swalec was appointed by Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar to represent community colleges at the Education Technology Summit, a task force charged with implementing a plan to integrate new technology into classrooms across Illinois.

And, in 1994 Waubonsee Community College was named as one of two Centers for Distance Learning in Illinois by the Illinois Board of Higher Education. As a Center for Distance Learning, Waubonsee serves as a training facility for teacher preparation and a demonstration site for new telecommunications/distance learning technologies and strategies.

Since 1994 the Illinois General Assembly has provided more than \$45 million to higher education institutions for the development and expansion of a statewide telecommunications-based instructional delivery system. The funding has spawned 10 regional consortia which have used distance learning technology to reach more than 275 locations throughout the state. During the 1996-97 academic year 800 courses were taught, using these technologies, to more than 16,000 students.

In the spring of 1997 Waubonsee Community College received a \$5.8 million Higher Education Cooperation Act (HECA) telecommunications grant to provide leadership for the State of Illinois in implementing video connectivity among all higher educational institutions, public and private, two-and four-year, across the state.

A pioneer in distance learning, Waubonsee has been providing classroom instruction for college and high school students via two-way interactive telecommunications systems since 1987. The state of Illinois' 10 regional consortia's interactive video systems must now be connected by a series of automated switches to form a complete network among all Illinois locations. The \$5.8 million HECA grant, administered by Waubonsee, will provide for those connections. Funds allocated in the HECA grant will be used to evaluate, recommend, purchase and install equipment insuring statewide connectivity.

There is a vital need for telecommunications networks, such as this Illinois network, to extend courses and programs to underserved populations and to deliver instruction directly to the workplace and other locations. The goal of the Illinois Governor and the Illinois General Assembly is to meet the needs of the underserved through a connected distance learning network. Illinois educators have been using interactive video technology to create new learning opportunities and reduce travel costs. Students can now speak with experts at remote classroom sites, learn first-hand about events they are studying and create presentations that show what they have learned. This distance learning technology is also being used extensively for professional development and staff meetings.

**Additional Qualifications:**

Dr. Swalec will actively participate in good faith in the objectives of the Universal Service Administrative Advisory Committee.

Dr. Swalec's resume, which is attached, also demonstrates numerous career achievements in the areas of leadership and community service.

# RESUME

JOHN J. SWALEC  
2S574 Nelson Lake Road  
Batavia, Illinois 60510  
(630) 879-6551

## PERSONAL AND FAMILY DATA

Married: Margaret Anne Menne  
♦ B.S. Illinois State University, 1958  
♦ M.S. St. Xavier Special Education  
Retired Teacher

Children: Martha Jane / Born July 17, 1958  
♦ Project Manager, Xerox Corp.  
Karen Marie / Born February 1, 1960  
♦ DVM and Teaching Surgeon, Washington State University  
Jill Ann / Born October 5, 1963  
♦ Word Processing/Medical Technology  
Cindy Sue / Born May 20, 1968  
♦ Engineer, Argonne National Laboratory

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

July 1, 1981      President, Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, Illinois  
to  
Present      Chief Executive Officer for an institution of over 8,000 head count and 3,000 FTE students. College has 85 full time and 702 part time instructors, 25 full time administrators, 105 full time and 261 part time support service personnel. Operating budget exceeds \$34,000,000. Unique and/or strong programs include: Statewide Hearing Impaired Program, Interpreter Training, Data Processing, two-way interactive television (Telecommunications Instructional Consortium), youth programs (including a youth mentoring program - "Road To Success"), nursing program and superior liberal arts program.

Institutional milestones include: development and completion of Aurora Campus, 35 million dollar budget from non-traditional sources of revenue; course offerings at 28 extension sites, unique cooperative programs with business/industry, high schools, universities and civic groups; development of computerized library; state of the art physical fitness center. College has been recognized for fiscal solvency, program review process, mutual gains collective bargaining successes and involvement by all sectors of the college through a system of adhocracy.

In 1996 the college was awarded 10 years of accreditation by the North Central Association, received the top marks from the ICCB visitation team and has been labelled as a "pacesetter" among community colleges by the ACCT.

Recent projects under way include a 17 ½ million dollar remodeling project of all campus buildings and the addition of a new classroom building, an academic computing center, and a multi million dollar extension center in conjunction with a medical facility using non-traditional funding. Recently, the College has completed a successful mutual gains collective bargaining which is labeled CAN DO and is being marketed by the College to assist other colleges. In 1991 the ICCB awarded WCC the Teaching Learning Award and in 1992 WCC was named a Center for Excellence for Adult Education.

1977-1981

Vice President for Educational Affairs, College of Lake County, Grayslake, Illinois.

Leadership responsibility for instructional, community education, open campus, learning resources, student services, athletic and Naval Training School activities and programs. Staff included 29 administrators, 170 regular full time faculty, 140 full time adjunct faculty, 510 part time faculty at this community college of 11,500 full time headcount and 4,700 full time equivalent students. The college served a diverse student body from both rural and urban areas at a central campus, 15 extension centers and one educational center. Innovations have included inter-institutional cooperative arrangements, a basic skills program, staff development program, academic utilization of the computer and a military instructional contract. The area responsibilities included supervision of a 9 million dollar educational and 4 million dollar military budget. Served on negotiation team, developed educational specifications for new facilities and assisted in the implementation of an administrative reorganization.

1972-1977

Associate Director Illinois Community College Board, Springfield, Illinois.

Overall responsibility for program review of capital requests, approval of locally driven instructional programs and courses, audit and recognition visits, leadership for statewide and regional planning and expansion of non-traditional programs of instruction. Assisted in the administration of State Community College of East St. Louis, a state-governed college of 9,890 minority students.

1960-1972

Department Chairman, Division Chairman and Dean Joliet, Triton and Moraine Valley Community Colleges respectively.

## EDUCATION

- 1973-1975      Ph.D, Educational Administration, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.
- ♦ Dissertation Topic: "Achievement of Practical Nursing Graduates at Illinois Public Community Colleges."
- 1960-1968      Additional graduate study in curriculum and administration at University of Illinois and Northern Illinois University.
- 1956-1958      M.S. in Education, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.
- ♦ Major: Community College
- 1952-1956      B.S. in Education, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois
- ♦ Physical Education
- ♦ History
- ♦ Driver's Education

## BOARDS

Board of Directors, American Association of Community Colleges, 1996-1999,  
Board of Directors, International Moose, 1996-97  
Board of Directors, National Junior College Athletic Association, 1996-1999  
Board of Directors, Greater Aurora Chamber of Commerce, 1988-1995  
Board of Directors, Merchants Bank, 1987-1999  
Board of Directors, Illinois Math and Science Academy, 1986-1998  
Board of Directors, West Suburban Regional Academic Consortium, 1986-1991  
Board of Directors, Copley Memorial Hospital, 1985-1989  
Board of Directors, Copley Home Health Care, 1985-1989  
Board of Directors, Copley Home Health Services, 1985-1989  
Board of Directors, Copley Foundation, 1985-1989  
Secretary, Chicago Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium, 1984  
Board of Directors, Fox Valley Health Services Corporation, 1983-1985  
Board of Directors, Aurora Easter Seal Society, 1981-1984  
Board of Directors, National Council of Instructional Administrators, 1980-1981

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

Executive Committee, National Junior College Athletic Association, 1996-1998  
Executive Committee, Fox Valley Educational Alliance, 1994-98  
Executive Committee, Merchants Bancorp, 1994-1999



## APPOINTMENTS

Chair, American Association of Community College, Commission on Teaching, Learning, and Technology, 1997-98  
Co-Chair, Higher Education Technology Task Force, 1997  
Chair, Technology Committee, Illinois Council of Community College Chancellors and Presidents, 1996-1998  
Chair, Fox Valley Educational Alliance, 1994-95  
Chair, Illinois Community College Board Telecommunications Taskforce, 1994  
Chair, Skyway Conference, 1990-1998  
Chair, ICCB Telecommunications Committee, 1992  
Chair, Board of Directors, Valley Industrial Association, 1992  
Chair, Greater Aurora Chamber of Commerce, 1989/1990  
Chair, Corridor Partnership for Excellence in Education, 1984-1986  
Chair, Legislative Committee, Illinois Community College Council of Presidents, 1994-95  
Chair, Suburban Community College Telecommunications Consortium, 1983-95  
Member, IBHE Telecommunications Committee, 1993-94  
Member, Economic Development Committee (Chamber), 1987-1992  
Member and Treasurer, Aurora Downtown Development Corporation, 1987-1993  
Member, Capital Advisory Committee, Illinois Community College Board, 1984-1987  
Member, Finance Committee, Copley Hospital, Aurora, Illinois, 1984-1989  
Member, Corridor Partnership for Excellence in Education Legislative Committee, 1986  
Member, Merchants Bancorp Loan, Audit and Marketing Committees, 1988-1999  
Member, Doctoral Advisory Council, Illinois State University, 1982-1985  
Member, Aurora Union League, 1984-1991  
Member, Aurora Elks, 1982-1993  
Member, Aurora Moose, 1982-1999  
Member, Aurora Rotary Club, 1982-1995  
Member, Copley Long Range Planning Committee, 1985-1989  
Member, Navy League, 1982-1999  
Member, State of Illinois Athletic Board, 1980-1981

## HONORS

Fiscal Agent HECA Grant "IBHE State Telecommunication Interconnectivity Grant" six million dollars, 1997-98  
Illinois Education Administrator of the Year, Illinois Association of Office Personnel, 1996  
Founder's Award, Corridor Partnership for Excellence in Education, 1993  
CEO of Year, Midwest Regional, American Association of Community College Trustees, 1990  
Wrestling Hall of Fame, National Junior College Athletic Assoc., 1988  
Wrestling Hall of Fame, Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association, 1988  
Distinguished Service Award, Illinois State Alumnus Club, 1988  
Grand Marshall, "Oswego Days," 1987  
Grand Marshall, Illinois State Wrestling Tournament, 1987  
Alumni Achievement Award, Illinois State University, 1987  
Elected American Association of Community Colleges Presidential Representative to National Junior College Athletic Association, 1986-1999  
Man of the Year, DuKane Valley Council, 1985  
Wrestling Hall of Fame, Illinois State University, 1981  
Governors Blue Ribbon Committee of Licensure, State of Illinois, 1979-1980